Dams built for irrigation of Vidharbha region

3016 SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special scheme has been made to utilize more water of the dams built for the irrigation of Vidharbha region in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the names of such schemes; and

(c) what steps have been taken to provide maximum benefits of these schemes to the farmers of Vidharbha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV). (a) The Government of Maharashtra has informed that any specific scheme to utilize more water of the dams for irrigation of Vidharbha region in Maharashtra has not been prepared. However, as per the information provided by the Government of Maharashtra 15 major, 37 medium, 13 ERM and 156 minor irrigation projects/schemes are under implementation. 8 major, 9 medium and 65 minor irrigation schemes of Vidharbha region are included in the Rehabilitation Package for the Farmers in agrarian distressed districts.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Status of interlinking of rivers

†3017. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI KRISHANLAL BALMIKI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the actual status of ambitious river interlinking project going on in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work of the above scheme is going on at a very slow pace and this scheme is lagging behind the target;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the details of the action taken by Government to accelerate the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has prepared Feasibility Report of 16 links out of 30 identified links under the National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development for transfer of water from surplus to-deficit river basin areas.

A Group headed by Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) consisting of other officers of CWC, NWDA and Secretaries of Irrigation/ Water Resources Departments from concerned states has been constituted in June, 2002 to discuss with the states the issues for arriving at a consensus regarding sharing of surplus water and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR). Five peninsular links have been identified as priority links for consensus building between the concerned States. The Group has held seven meetings on these links. the DPR for one priority link *viz.* Ken-Betwa has been taken up by NWDA after signing of a tripartite agreement between the Government of India and concerned States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25.08.2005. The States of MP and Rajasthan have also agreed in principle for the preparation of DPR of another priority link viz. Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link.

The implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States.

Rain water harvesting in KBK region of Orissa

3018. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to evolve a multi-pronged strategy for achieving maximum coverage of rain water harvesting with an integrated approach;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of the Centre to harness rain water in KBK region of Orissa with a view to address the shortage of drinking water of this region?